

OCJP Newsline

Office of Criminal Justice Planning



News
from the
Executive
Director

I would like to wish all of you a happy and joyous holiday season. During this time of year, there are a few things we can do to help prevent tragedies due to drinking and driving.

Designate a driver for holiday parties. Take the keys from a friend who's had too much to drink. Arrange to store or haul someone's motorcycle home if the operator has been drinking. Support alcohol-free holiday events and encourage your local government and civic leaders to do the same. And above all, don't drink and drive.

Research indicates that incidents of domestic violence increase during the holidays. Every 16 seconds in the United States, a woman is beaten by her husband or partner. One in five women will be physically assaulted by a partner or former partner during their lifetime.

Although these statistics are dramatic, they are likely much greater. Many cases of abuse go unreported. Some women fear reprisal by the abusive man if they report it. Some think that the

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The Genesis of OCJP's Drug-Endangered Children Program

With the proliferation of methamphetamine in the nation, children are becoming the newest victims of this dangerous and deadly illegal drug. In 1996, more than 850 clandestine methamphetamine laboratories were raided statewide by the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement. Law enforcement reports document that children are being endangered by exposure to deadly chemicals and explosions, not to mention neglect. The effects of these toxins on exposed children include life threatening health problems such as impairment of kidneys, lungs, liver, and the brain. Related behavioral disorders include aggression, violence, paranoia, and hallucinations.

In response to the problem, under the leadership of Governor Pete Wilson, the California Council on Criminal Justice(CCCJ) has produced a comprehensive guidebook to help communities address this issue. The guidebook was a product of collaboration with OCJP, who convened a working group to address the issues of child endangerment and clandestine

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WINTER
1997/98



Task Force Issues Child Abuse Protocol

In 1993, OCJP established the Children's Justice Act (CJA) Task Force. This body is comprised of leading professionals from law enforcement, the courts, child protective services, medical and social sciences. The CJA Task Force works to comprehensively review the handling of child abuse and neglect cases and develop policy recommendations to improve the system.

This year, one focus of California's CJA Task Force is the establishment of statewide minimum standards for multidisciplinary or interagency investigation of child abuse. Abused children have already been severely traumatized and are often re-traumatized with each interview

regarding their abuse. Repeated interviews can also lead to loss of information if all the professionals in the field are not communicating with one another.

The CJA Task Force has developed a minimum standard multi-disciplinary protocol which they believe every county should meet to ensure quality investigations and help all children in California receive the same treatment in cases of abuse or neglect.

Transfer of Knowledge Forums on this issue are being held statewide.

For more information about these Forums or for a copy of the Minimum Standard Protocol please contact OCJP's Violence Against Children Branch at (916) 323-7449.

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crime of domestic violence is not important enough to mention.

We all read the recent headlines about a 25-year-old woman who was shot 13 times as she tried to flee her partner's residence. They found her body the next day after the couple's 18-month-old son was found by a woman who saw him sobbing in his pajamas before dawn on a Bay Area sidewalk. Her partner had a history of battering wives and girlfriends.

We needn't look far to see that not only does domestic violence damage bodies and minds, its cost to taxpayers is enormous. The American Medical Association estimates that the cost of treating domestic violence victims is over \$5 billion each year. One in three women seeking emergency room care does so for injuries received from an abusive partner.

Domestic violence is a serious crime. Increasingly, many young women are also victims of domestic violence. Several of them have witnessed it in their own home as children, and as young women, have men in their lives who beat them up and beat them down.

In response to this serious issue, over \$12.4 million is allocated this fiscal year in California for the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) STOP Program. These funds will be used to provide training to law enforcement, prosecution and victim services providers. Specialized vertical prosecution units and other victim services will also be funded.

For more information on the domestic violence programs at OCJP, you can contact Harry Liddicotte, Branch Chief, Domestic Violence at (916) 324-9204.

"[OCJP] grantees will intervene on behalf of hundreds of at-risk children."

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drug labs. As a result, the group developed two primary recommendations:

1) develop protocols to assist localities in implementing new programs; and 2) provide training and technical assistance to professionals involved with drug production and abuse intervention.

Finally, the Governor has directed OCJP to designate \$3.6 million for project implementation to address this problem. The goal of the project is to stop the victimization and further abuse of California's children. The funds will be authorized over a three-year period and will include:

- development of a multiagency response team in four local district attorney's offices;
- a statewide training center to provide multidisciplinary training for the response team as well as regional trainings;
- a statewide medical response team to provide specialized

training and consultations for ongoing child endangerment investigations; and

- an OCJP consultant who would coordinate a three year evaluation study.

The competitive process is now complete and the new grantees will soon begin implementing their projects. The grantees for the Response Team include the counties of Santa Cruz, Los Angeles, San Diego and Orange. The Training Center Component was awarded to The California Women's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Dependencies. The medical component will be provided by the UC Davis Medical Center. The appointment of the evaluation consultant is still in process.

We are anticipating that the DEC grantees will intervene on behalf of hundreds of children over the next three years who have been identified as at-risk for drug exposure. OCJP and CCCJ will provide updates on their continual progress.

Slagle Retires After 26 Years

With a career spanning the birth of OCJP as a state agency to a fire which burned it to the ground, Shirley Slagle retires after 26 years of service to OCJP and the citizens of California.

If you ever wondered who is behind the scenes at OCJP, then meet Shirley Slagle. Shirley is one of our staff members who ensures that your federal dollars pass through the accounting system in an accurate and timely fashion. Shirley has attended to this vital function for the last 11 years, completing many federal reports and balancing federal funds with state funds.

Shirley was hired in 1971 to work

in Grants Control, then known as "Central Files."

"Back then we awarded grants based on letters of intent, not formal Requests for Proposal (RFP's)," she explains.

Shirley has worked with six separate executive directors, adjusting to the changes that each new administration brought.

"What I've learned in my 26 years is that everything comes back around again," she says.

When Shirley retires in December, she plans to spend more time with her husband and children and maybe add a new coat of paint to her home.

Please visit our website at www.ocjp.ca.gov

Legislative News

The first year of the 1997-98 Legislative Session has ended with over 150 bills being signed into law by Governor Wilson. Among these new laws are a number of bills sponsored by the Governor dealing with juvenile justice and criminal street gangs, including:

SB 1050 (Alpert) Chapter 909 authorizes counties to establish an "At-Risk Youth Early Intervention Program" designed to assess and serve families with children who have chronic behavioral problems.

AB 622 (Miller) Chapter 348 permits a peace officer to cite and release a juvenile offender except for offenses involving firearms.

AB 1105 (Hertzberg) Chapter 679 revises the duties, names, procedures, and remedies available for juvenile traffic hearing officers. In general, these changes will speed up the disposition of juveniles accused of committing less serious crimes with the intent of holding more juveniles accountable for their offenses.

SB 940 (Leslie) Chapter 500 makes it a misdemeanor or felony to interfere with a witness or victim's attendance or testimony at a legal proceeding. The bill imposes additional penalties of 3 years imprisonment if a credible threat of violence or death is made by a criminal street gang member to prevent or dissuade such testimony in a violent felony trial.

SB 941 (Leslie) Chapter 499 creates a new hearsay exception for sworn statements relating to gang crimes. The intent of this bill is to remove the incentive for gang members to kill witnesses to gang crimes, and to preserve the statements of witnesses.

Additionally, OCJP sponsored AB 1303 (Miller) Chapter 818 to amend California's sex offender registry in order to bring the state

into compliance with the federal Jacob Wetterling Act. This bill requires every person who is a sexually violent predator (SVP) to verify his or her address every 90 days in a manner established by the Department of Justice (DOJ). Failure to comply with the 90-day registration requirement is punishable as a misdemeanor or felony.

In addition, this bill adds pimping or pandering involving a minor,

aggravated sexual assault of a child, and solicitation to commit sexual assault to the list of sex crimes for which a convicted offender must register.

All of these laws will become operative on January 1, 1998.

If you have any questions about these or other laws enacted during the past year, please call Paul Waters, Acting Chief of Legislative Division at (916) 322-0236, or check bills at www.leginfo.ca.gov.

"The intent of this bill is to remove the incentive for gang members to kill witnesses to gang crimes."

Welcome New OCJP Staff

We are pleased to announce the following staff changes. They include three new Branch Chiefs, a new Deputy Director, and several promotions.

Jim Roth is our new Drug Enforcement Branch Chief. Jim has been in law enforcement since 1968 and joined us on November 1, 1997. Jim has served with both the San Jose Police Department and the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department. He graduated from San Jose State University with a Law Enforcement Administration degree and also attended the FBI National Academy.

Also on November 1, Lt. Colonel Bill Hipsley became our Crime Suppression Branch Chief. He still serves as the Deputy Director of the Training and Mobilization Directorate for the California Army National Guard. Bill also was Commander of the Guard's Joint Counterdrug Task Force. He attended Fairleigh Dickinson University, George Washington University, University of Redlands, and numerous military and professional schools.

Harry Liddicotte, our new Domestic Violence Branch Chief, joined us on November 10. He was Chief Deputy District Attorney for Del Norte County. After graduating from CSU San Diego with a B.S. in Biology, Harry became a Clinical

Laboratory Technologist. He then earned a law degree from Western State University, Anaheim, and practiced law privately until 1987.

Martin Gonzalez, formerly Deputy Secretary, Legislation and Legal Counsel, at the Youth and Adult Correctional Agency, became Deputy Director of Planning/Policy Development November 19. He is a graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara and Boalt Hall School of Law, UC Berkeley. He previously served as legal counsel to the Assembly Committee on Public Safety as an employment law specialist in private practice, and as a California Senate Fellow.

We also announce the promotion of several OCJP staff. Brigitte Baul, an eight-year veteran of OCJP, was appointed Chief of the Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Branch. John Isaacson was promoted to Federal Programs Manager for our Public Safety/Crime Prevention Division. He has 20 years experience in public safety and victim services. Ann Mizoguchi was promoted to Federal Programs Manager for the Victim Services/Violence Prevention Division. In addition to her service at OCJP, she also worked for the California Department of Social Services.

CALENDAR

OCJP's Next Program Plan will be released in February 1998 and will include Requests for Proposals for the programs listed below. Program Plans are released approximately four times per year, and are available in hardcopy, on disk in Microsoft Word 7.0, or through our website at www.ocjp.ca.gov.

If you are not currently on our Program Plan mailing list and would like to receive a Request for Proposals for these, or any future programs, please call the Program Division at (916) 324-9116.

- Career Criminal Apprehension Program
- Child Abuser Vertical Prosecution Program
- Community Crime Resistance Program
- Family Violence Prevention Program
- Gang Violence Suppression Program - Multicomponent Model

December is California's *Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month*. For more information regarding anti-DUI activities contact the California Office of Traffic Safety at (916) 444-8014.

Twelfth Annual "*San Diego Conference on Responding to Child Maltreatment*." January 27-30, 1998, Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, CA. Sponsored by Center for Child Protection, Children's Hospital-San Diego. "State of the Art" multidisciplinary general sessions, workshops, and forums for all those concerned with current child maltreatment issues. For more information call (619) 495-4940.

"*Surviving & Thriving, a Conference on Victim Services*."

April 6-9, 1998, Radisson Hotel, Sacramento, CA. Sponsored by OCJP. This conference will provide an opportunity to discuss relevant policy issues and learn about innovative ideas to enhance victim services. Call (916) 323-7428 for further information.

Office of Criminal Justice Planning: Pete Wilson, *Governor*, Ray Johnson, *Executive Director*. OCJP *Newsline* is published quarterly. Send information or articles for publication to: OCJP, Attn: Sharon Hoekstra, 1130 K Street, Suite LL60, Sacramento, CA, 95814. Include name and telephone number. All articles are subject to editorial review. Except for reprints from other publications, the material in *Newsline* may be reproduced without further permission.



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